

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05117 301051Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03  
/043 W  
-----310144Z 048961 /22

R 291429Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2036  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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ROME FOR RCAA; BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, BEXP  
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GULF AIR

REF: (A) MANAMA 713; (B) KARACHI 930

1. DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH CIVIL AIR ATTACHE IN  
LONDON MARCH 24, SAMI GAYED (QATAR - PRESIDENT OF HIGH  
AVIATION COUNCIL) PROVIDED HIS VIEWS ON SOME OF THE  
ISSUES DISCUSSED IN MANAMA AND KARACHI REFTELS. HE SAID  
HE HAD LED THE OPPOSITION TO THE GULF AIR/KUWAIT MERGER  
DURING THE FIRST SERIES OF TALKS BECAUSE KUWAIT HAD  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 05117 301051Z

INSISTED ON DOMINATING THE COMBINED CARRIER, WANTED TO  
DROP THE GULF AIR NAME IN FAVOR OF KUWAIT AIRWAYS, AND  
DEMANDED THAT KUWAIT HOLD A MAJORITY INTEREST IN THE  
VENTURE. HE SEEMED PLEASED THAT THE SECOND ROUND OF  
MERGER TALKS (REFTELS) HAD AGAIN REACHED THE SAME CONCLU-  
SION BUT THIS TIME WITHOUT HIS PRESENCE.

2. GAYED SAID IT SEEMS CERTAIN GULF AIR WILL EXERCISE OPTIONS ON ONLY 3 OF 4 ADDITIONAL LOCKHEED L-1011S IT HAS BEEN CONSIDERING. ON OTHER POSSIBLE EQUIPMENT PURCHASES' GULF AIR HELICOPTER SUBSIDIARY IS LOOKING FOR REPLACEMENT FOR SIKORSKY S-62S AND QATAR GOVERNMENT WANTS TO BUY AN EXECUTIVE JET. GAYED PREFERS LOCKHEED JET-STAR BECAUSE OF ADVANTAGES OF BUYING FROM MAJOR GULF AIR SUPPLIER BUT IS ALSO CONSIDERING GRUMMAN GULFSTREAM II.

3. QATAR PLANS TO CONSTRUCT AVIATION ACADEMY WERE DESCRIBED BY GAYED. LONG RANGE PLAN IS TO TRAIN GULF LOCALS TO LEVEL AT WHICH THEY CAN HANDLE ALL PHASES OF AIRLINE OPERATIONS. TRAINING AND OPERATION OF ACADEMY WOULD BE UNDER AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO) PRESUMABLY FUNDED LARGEMLY BY QATAR GOVERNMENT.

4. GAYED SAID HE WILL LEAVE LONDON APRIL 1 TO VISIT US WEST COAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH. WHILE THERE HE WILL OBTAIN MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ALSO MEET WITH AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURERS. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRIP, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE INFORMAL TALKS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON TO SEE IF IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN SERVICE BY US CARRIERS TO POINTS IN GULF NOT PRESENTLY SERVED. IN ADDITION, HE WANTS TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE GULF AIR SERVICES TO US. HE SAID GULF AIR WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO FLY THE ATLANTIC FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. WE SUGGESTED HE CONTACT MR. STYLES (EB/OA) IF HE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WASHINGTON.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 05117 301051Z

5. GULF AIR, GAYED TOLD US, IS SHIFTING FROM SOLE RELIANCE ON BRITISH CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS (BCAR) TO US FEDERAL AIR REGULATIONS (FAR) FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF ITS AIRCRAFT. L-1011S ARE BEING MAINTAINED AND OPERATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FARs.

SPIERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, AIRLINES, BUSINESS MERGERS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON05117  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770109-0808  
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**Message ID:** b1ab01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Reference:** 77 MANAMA 713, 77 KARACHI 930  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2966827  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR: GULF AIR  
**TAGS:** EAIR, BEXP, BA, UK, KU, GULF AIR, KUWAIT AIRWAYS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b1ab01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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